

OPEC financial experts meet

VIENNA, Feb. 14 (Agencies). — The Economic Commission of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) met for new price discussions here today, but officials said there was no early prospect of ending the price dispute which has disrupted OPEC unity. Speaking in Riyadh yesterday, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said that his country had held its recent price increase down to five per cent, creating the split in OPEC, to encourage the United States to put pressure on Israel on behalf of the Arab cause. "The increase or lowering of crude oil prices is not a difficult thing for us. Each party acts according to its own interests," the prince said.

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Crosland dangerously ill

LONDON, Feb. 14 (AFP). — British Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland was gravely ill in an Oxford hospital today after being rushed from his country home in near-by Adderbury last night. A Foreign Office communique said the condition of Mr. Crosland, aged 58, had "gradually deteriorated" and that he was "now dangerously ill". The communique said he showed indications of a stroke, although sources said the foreign secretary may have suffered a heart attack. The Foreign Office communique said Mr. Crosland was "under strict medical observation" at Radcliffe hospital in Oxford, where he was taken by ambulance from his home in Adderbury on doctors' orders. He was studying a dossier on Rhodesia when taken ill, the communique said.

King Hussein: Jordan, Syria determined on ultimate confederation

IRAN (Agencies). — His Majesty King Hussein has indicated both Jordan and Syria are now determined to go ahead to an ultimate confederation that can serve as a rallying point for Arabs in the area. In a televised interview with the Iranian Telepress agency today, King Hussein assessed his recent visit to Damascus saying: "We are making rapid progress in this direction; and I believe we will be able to work out the broadlines (of such a confederation) that will fulfill the aspirations of the peoples of the two states." "It is important not only to do whatever is possible to show we can live as one people but also to stress our common interests in the face of threats and challenges of which we are acutely aware here (in Jordan) and in Syria," the king added. The King commended Syria's "constructive" role in the Lebanese civil war and expressed the hope that Lebanon would remain a single political entity. He also confirmed that he had held exploratory talks with the Syrian Liberation Organisation but ruled out any return to the 1970 situation in Jordan. The King reaffirmed that it would be futile to reconvene the Arab Middle East peace conference if the Palestinians were not ready.

Egyptian students defy ban on demonstration

CAIRO, Feb. 14 (R). — About 100 students at Cairo University today defied the ban on demonstrations and staged a noisy anti-government demonstration in campus. The students were protesting against new tough law and measures imposing hard curfews for demonstrations, strikes and sit-ins. There were no clashes today between pro and anti-government groups in this biggest Egyptian university with more than 150,000 students. Posters and slogans by the students called for the abolition of the new measures and the restoration of students' rights to political seminars and gatherings inside the university, banned under the new laws.

Assad off to Romania Khleifawi to visit Moscow

DAMASCUS, Feb. 14 (R). — Syria's President Hafez Assad is to leave for Romania tomorrow in the middle of a month of intensive Middle East diplomacy. He will have talks with President Nicolae Ceausescu, the East European communist leader, to maintain diplomatic relations with Israel after the Arab-Israeli war. Nothing is being said here about the purpose of the president's two-day trip. Romania has a sizeable stake in economic and technical but given the Arab World's current preoccupation with the efforts, diplomatic observers here have no doubt the sharpest meeting will focus on the Middle East. President Assad is going to Romania at a time when diplomatic sources here say he has been asked for the present, invitation to visit Moscow, and Washington, even though there so far been no official invitation from the U.S. Although Mr. Assad is going to Romania, Premier Abdel Razaq Khleifawi is expected to go to the Soviet Union, Syria's major source of aid, and therefore its most important ally should peace efforts fail.

Sharaf delivers message to Sadat

CAIRO (Agencies). — Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Chief of the Jordanian Royal Cabinet, arrived here Monday on a one-day visit to Egypt with a message from His Majesty King Hussein for President Anwar Sadat. He went into talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi immediately after his arrival. Sharif Abdul Hamid told news reporters on his arrival that he will have talks with Egyptian leaders on the coordination of joint action and the adoption of a unified Arab position on Arab issues.

Young's remarks on Kissinger pose thorny problem for Carter

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (AFP). — The new United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young, has overnight become the most controversial official of the new administration. He has even taken his seat on the Security Council. Furthermore, he seems to be posing President Jimmy Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance the same kind of problems caused the Ford administration by one of Mr. Young's predecessors at the U.N., Patrick Moynihan, now a Democratic Senator for New York State. Mr. Carter's hasty return here yesterday from his Georgia home base, Plains, for a talk with Mr. Young on the latter's return from Africa indicated Mr. Carter's awareness of the impact of such remarks as Mr. Young's charge that former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger "had put a burden on Britain's back, then abandoned it" over Rhodesia.



NEW U.S. AMBASSADOR -- Richard S. Parker, who will be U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, arrives at Beirut airport Sunday night escorted by security guards. At left is U.S. Charge d'Affaires George Lane. (AP wirephoto).

Vance: Soviet Union has prominent role in Middle East peace efforts

DAMASCUS, Feb. 14 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was quoted here today as saying that the Soviet Union had a prominent role to play in the Middle East peace conference. In an interview with the daily newspaper Tishrin, published by the Syrian government, Mr. Vance said he was not carrying any specific proposals for a Middle East solution. The interview was given to the editor of the newspaper before Mr. Vance's scheduled departure tonight on his tour of six Middle East countries. The paper did not say where the interview was given. Mr. Vance said he was coming to the Middle East for talks with its leaders before drafting proposals for a solution. Tishrin brought out a special midday issue with Mr. Vance's interview. Stressing the role of the Soviet Union in Middle East peace efforts, he noted that it was co-chairman with the U.S. of the Geneva conference. He added that on his return to Washington he would discuss the results of his tour with Soviet representatives. In another interview, the United States secretary of state said today that 1977 might prove decisive for a Middle East settlement. He also told the Kuwait newspaper Al Qabas that at present he did not contemplate meeting Palestinian leaders during the trip. "I believe the current year may be decisive as there are several factors now which may lead to a settlement," Mr. Vance said. "I am not underestimating the current difficulties but we now no longer face war in Lebanon. It seems there is a unanimous wish on the part of countries in the region to follow the road to peace." The secretary of state said all sides concerned had agreed to reconvene the Geneva conference and it was time to start making moves towards a settlement. He was also quoted as saying he would be discussing the Middle East with Kremlin leaders because the Soviet Union was the co-sponsor with the U.S. of the Geneva conference. This adjourned in 1973 a brief initial meeting.

Interviewed in Washington, the secretary of state said he would sound out the views of those concerned in the Middle East crisis and the leaders of these countries would later visit the United States for talks about a resumed Geneva conference. "There is a real chance to achieve a constructive solution and to reconvene the Geneva conference," Mr. Vance said. Answering other questions, he said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had so far refused to recognise Israel's right to exist and the framework drawn by the United Nations for peace -- security Council resolutions 242 and 338. "In these circumstances, it is difficult to make any progress. But we realise that recognising the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people will be crucial for any peaceful settlement," he added. Asked about a reduction of American arms sales to Israel, he said: "We are committed to the principle of finding a way to reduce arms sales not only on the part of America but all countries of the world. This is extremely important and an understanding may be reached on the matter," he was quoted as saying. Mr. Vance said he believed approaching Israeli general elections would not prevent Premier Yitzhak Rabin from visiting Washington.

State Department says Israeli exploitation of Suez Gulf oil complicates peace

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (AFP). — The United States today said that Israel was complicating prospects for a Middle East settlement by exploiting oil resources in the Gulf of Suez -- a topic U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is to discuss with Israeli leaders this week. State Department spokesman Fred Brown said Israel's oil operations were "not helpful to the efforts to get the peace negotiations on the way" and were "contrary to international law." It "complicates the prospects for a settlement," he added. Legally, Mr. Brown said, Israel had no right as an occupying power to exploit natural resources not already under exploitation when it moved into the area. The United States has already explained its attitude to Israel and Egypt, the spokesman said, and Mr. Vance would take up the issue with leaders in Tel Aviv and Cairo during visits there this week.

Peled: All PLO needs is encouraging sign from U.S. to amend covenant

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (R). — A retired Israeli general, who has held private contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said today the PLO could formally abandon its hard-line stand on non-recognition of Israel if given an encouraging sign from the United States. Maj. Gen. Matti Peled told a news conference that this encouragement should take the form of some U.S. recognition that the PLO had recently moderated its stand. "This would be enough for the Palestinian organisation to amend the Palestine National Covenant." Such an amendment could be made at next month's meeting in Cairo of the Palestinian National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, he said. Gen. Peled, director of the department of Arab studies at Tel Aviv university, is head of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace, which has twice met unofficially with PLO representatives in Paris since last June. "The Palestinians are now in a grey zone, in which a very positive development can be expected provided something is done to encourage them," Gen. Peled said. He said he had heard two days ago from a PLO representative that the Palestinian organisation was ready to accept all but one of the terms of United Nations Security Council resolution 242, which recognises Israel's right to exist. The only PLO reservation was the resolution's use of the term "refugees," describing the Palestinians, who want full political recognition as a nation and state. "The shift in their (PLO) position has not been met with all the encouragement they expected," Gen. Peled said. "It would be too easy to get a much more formal statement from the PLO if they were informed authoritatively that such a statement would be recognised," he said. The best encouragement, he said, would be a U.N. Security Council resolution inviting the PLO to take part in peace talks with Israel. Such an invitation should be made on condition that the PLO recognises Israel's right to exist, he said. But to accept such an invitation, the PLO would first have to amend its covenant, he said. He also criticised American Jewish organisations which, he said, had prevented him from voicing his views in front of organised Jewish groups. Gen. Peled said the PLO representatives who had met his group in Paris had done so under instructions from the PLO Central Committee and appeared to have authority to speak for it. His own organisation has no official standing but it reports to the Israeli government after each of its meetings.

Peace force throws ring around refugee camps near Beirut

BEIRUT, Feb. 14, (R). — Prospects for a speedy return to normal life in Lebanon were left in doubt today after new trouble in Beirut. But fears of a confrontation between Israeli and Syrian troops in southern Lebanon seemed to be averted when Arab troops -- who have been keeping the peace inside Lebanon since the bloody civil war -- began withdrawing from a so-called sensitive area near the border with the Jewish state. Eyewitnesses said about 200 Syrian troops of the peace-keeping force had left Nabatiyeh, 11 kms from the frontier with Israel. In Beirut, tensions ran high after the Arab peace force threw a ring of steel around Palestinian refugee camps on southwest outskirts of the Lebanese capital. "The situation is explosive," a Palestinian official said. And in Cairo Palestinian commander Yasser Arafat, held under talks with Egyptian leaders about the events in Beirut. Tension was running high after the peace force brought tanks, mortars and rocket batteries into position around the camps. The move caused Palestinian fears that the force might clash with hard-line commandos in the camps.

The peace force concentrations were around Sabra and Shatila -- crowded Palestinian camps in the southwest outskirts -- and around Fakhani, where Mr. Arafat has his headquarters. The force intervened last week in clashes between rival Palestinian commando groups, one of the gravest incidents since it imposed a ceasefire in Lebanon's civil war on Nov. 15. Two Syrian MIG-17 fighters screamed low over the camps today as peace troops continued to fortify positions. At least 28 people, including a Syrian officer, were killed in last week's clashes. Arab diplomatic sources said that Palestinian leaders had established urgent contacts with the peace force in an attempt to defuse the situation. The sources said the Palestinians had asked for a few days to remove heavy weapons from the camps. The commando strength there is estimated at around 2,000. A spokesman in Rome for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, speaking of the situation in Beirut, said the Palestinians had cabled Egypt and Saudi Arabia "asking them to intervene before a bloody battle began." The spokesman said the Pal-

estinians had told the force they would fight and defend their positions. The total strength of the Syrians in Nabatiyeh part of the 30,000-strong Arab League peace force policing the present truce, has been estimated at no more than 500 men and about a dozen Soviet-made T-55 tanks. Some observers in Beirut have described Israel's anger over the presence of the Syrians as out of proportion with the size of the force around Nabatiyeh, a bustling market town. But Israeli spokesmen have said that the Syrian presence had created a serious precedent. Eyewitnesses reported that the Syrians had pulled back to positions around Habboub, Hattura and Aichiyeh. These villages are 1.5 kilometres northwest, 15 kilometres north and 8 kms northeast of Nabatiyeh. The Syrians never deployed inside the town which is controlled by Lebanese leftists and their Palestinian allies. Reports from Israel said that the Arab pullback from Nabatiyeh was expected to be finished by tomorrow when U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is due to begin a tour of Israel and five Arab countries.

Waldheim consults with Kreisky on PLO peace document

VIENNA, Feb. 14, (R). — U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim arrived here today to discuss fresh peace initiatives in the Middle East and Cyprus with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. Officials said Dr. Waldheim, who flew here from Geneva after visits to Middle Eastern capitals and Nicosia, would sound out Dr. Kreisky on a document he received from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which, according to the Austrian chancellor, contained "a total change of policy."

The newspaper of Dr. Kreisky's ruling Socialist Party, Arbeiter Zeitung, reported the document as saying the PLO would accept a limited Palestinian state made up of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. A similar proposal was put to Dr. Waldheim by PLO leader Yasser Arafat when they met in Damascus on Feb. 5.

The officials said the U.N. secretary general, who is here for a five-day official visit, wanted to know how closely the document followed the drift of his conversations with Mr. Arafat. A spokesman for Dr. Kreisky said the chancellor would probably discuss the PLO paper with Israeli leaders when he flies to Tel Aviv on Feb. 22 for a one-day visit to address the Israeli Labour Party.

The U.N. envoy is also expected to brief Dr. Kreisky on the resumption of talks here next month between Greek Cypriot and Turkish community leaders under the auspices of Dr. Waldheim after a break of more than one year. The two sides agreed to resume their deadlocked talks on the island's political future after a four-hour meeting in Nicosia last weekend between Dr. Waldheim, President Makarios and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash. Speaking to reporters yesterday in Geneva at the end of his tour of Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Israel to sound out prospects for resuming the Geneva Middle East peace conference, Dr. Waldheim denied newspaper reports that the mission had been a failure. The purpose of the mission was "to clarify the positions of the parties concerned and in the light of their positions to see whether we can bridge the gap," he said. "I think this mission was fulfilled in the best possible way," Dr. Waldheim said, adding he did not expect to convince all the parties to do the same thing. Though expressing the belief that the Geneva negotiations could be resumed, the U.N. ch-

ief said that, if this were not possible, "we have to look out for other means." The U.N. leader said his discussions in the Middle East had yielded some new ideas for getting round procedural problems blocking the resumption of the conference, but he gave no details.

Austrian chancellor says: PLO document opens door to possible Mideast peace breakthrough

VIENNA, Feb. 14, (R). — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said yesterday he had received a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) document which represented a total change of PLO policy towards a possible Middle East peace settlement. The document, as published Sunday by the Austrian newspaper Arbeiter Zeitung, said that a Palestinian mini-state and Israel could coexist in peace.

Asked by Reuters to comment on the policy document, Dr. Kreisky said: "It looks like a total change of policy. It is up to the Israelis now to find a way of co-existence with the Palestinians."

"A non-belligerent status could be established between the future state of Palestine and Israel," according to the PLO document. The document said the PLO was willing to accept an independent Palestinian state made up of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and two enclaves named as Himma and Auja. The paper said the document was given to the Austrian chancellor by Mr. Isam Sartawi, of the PLO leadership, in Dr. Kreisky's capacity as chairman of the Socialist International's fact finding mission on the Middle East.

The newspaper said the main drift of the document was that the time was ripe for a Middle East settlement and the opportunity might be lost if nothing was done within a few months. But several conditions would have to be met before a new Palestine and Israel could have truly peaceful relations. The most important were the recognition of the right of every Palestinian to return to his town and compensation for those who freely decided not to go back, it said. The document stressed that the PLO desire for peace was sincere. It also called on Western Europe to play a larger role in the search for peace in the Middle East. This, it said, would help to strengthen moderate opinion among Palestinians and would have a positive effect on what it called the negative attitudes of the Americans, the Israelis and some Arabs. Palestinian opinion was favourable to a moderate peace settlement, it said, but added: "How long the Palestinian leadership can adhere to this attitude in the face of hostility from the Americans, Israelis and certain Arabs is hard to foresee."

In Beirut a PLO spokesman confirmed that Mr. Sartawi had met Dr. Kreisky. He said the PLO's policy was "to set up a Palestinian state on every inch of occupied territory that is liberated." He did not elaborate.

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NEWS FOCUS

Black Rhodesian guerrillas train against white rule, but they still lack unity

By Alan Cowell

LUSAKA, Feb. 14 (R). — The young black Rhodesians wore ragged clothes and some slept fitfully in the airport transit lounge, on their way towards becoming nationalist guerrilla fighters.

Their ages ranged from 15 to the late twenties, and when they glanced at white men it was with suspicion, tinged with deep hostility.

The recruits, on their way to training camps after growing up in their homeland under white minority rule, provided evidence of a new and significant drive to swell the ranks of the guerrilla armies.

The young men had left home to join Mr. Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU (Zimbabwe African Peoples Union), one of the two main guerrilla movements, which has a recruiting office in Francistown, Botswana.

According to diplomatic sources, plane loads of recruits have, in recent months, poured through the airport here on their way to join Mr. Nkomo's army.

Exact figures for the size of the guerrilla fighting forces are not available. But the recruitment drive could, in future, boost Mr. Nkomo's army from its present strength, estimated by Western intelligence sources at under 1,000.

A similar recruitment effort is believed to be underway among the ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) forces, who are based in Mozambique and whose spokesman is Mr. Robert Mugabe.

Rhodesian blacks have also a "Patriotic Front" army based in black Africa's "front-line" states (Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, Mozambique and Angola) and by the influential National Liberation Committee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

A meeting of the committee, which has just ended here, decided that henceforth all military and other aid to nationalist forces inside and outside Rhodesia would be channelled through the front.

This greatly helped the alliance in implementing its threat of intensified guerrilla warfare following the failure of Anglo-American attempts to promote a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia.

Western intelligence sources said Soviet, Chinese and Cuban advisers were involved in efforts to step up the pace of training of guerrillas.

Advanced weapons are beginning to reach the guerrillas, the sources said.

Advanced weapons are beginning to reach the guerrillas, the sources said.

One secret resolution adopted by the National Liberation Committee called for the opening up of new fronts "to stretch the enemy forces" and urged the "front-line" states to help with the new strategy.

But despite these indications that intensified warfare is in the offing, the white-ruled Rhodesian army is killing many guerrillas and the nationalists themselves will have problems in quickly increasing the level of fighting.

"In the past, we have thought in terms of a quick victory. Now we will have to settle in for a longer war, one that could last up to five years," one Patriotic Front official said.

A potential obstacle is the continuing lack of military and political unity between the two wings of the front.

ZANU and ZAPU guerrillas fought each other in armed clashes in camps in Tanzania last year, and have yet to be reunited.

According to nationalist sources, efforts to bring them together, launched last month in Maputo, will not be aimed at immediate unification.

"In the past, people have tried for unity, total unity, straight away. This has proved to be impossible so we will go for realistic, step-by-step approach, reaching agreement where we can and making sure our differences do not get out of hand until we can solve them," the sources said.

A likely first step would be to coordinate the activities of the two armies, ZAPU, operating from Zambia and Botswana, and ZANU, the larger force, from Mozambique.

ZANU and ZAPU seem to be far from their objective of eventual political integration.

They both received a body-blow last month when Mr. Jason Moyo, ZAPU's military overlord and a key "link-man" with ZANU, was assassinated by a parcel bomb here.

"I don't think I will ever find a friend like him in ZAPU again," said one senior ZANU official who had worked with Moyo closely on earlier unity efforts.

The situation has been complicated by a series of allegations by two other nationalists, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, who do not have "front-line" backing because they are not members of the Patriotic Front.

A representative of Mr. Sithole told the National Liberation Committee that ZANU was split between pro-Sithole

and pro-Mugabe guerrillas — a division that had led to widespread factional bloodletting in camps in Mozambique and Tanzania.

The claims, hotly denied by Mr. Mugabe's aides, coincide with reports from Western intelligence sources that pro-Sithole fighters, low in number, have fled from Mozambique, some of them heading for Zaire.

The "front-line" states, and the OAU, are trying to promote greater unity among the nationalists, seeking to make the Patriotic Front the spearhead of black Rhodesian efforts to bring down the government of Premier Ian Smith without rivalries.

This is unlikely to happen overnight. ZANU is still a party of disparate elements, whose activities over recent years have been marked by intense internal disputes.

Mr. Smith, for his part, can be expected to try to widen the gap between the bishop, the only nationalist now operating inside Rhodesia where he can campaign for support, and the Patriotic Front, based externally and without a unified voice inside the territory.

China wants U.S. Pacific presence to counter USSR

By Rene Filipo

PEKING, Feb. 14 (AFP). — China wants the United States to maintain a strong military presence in the Pacific to counter Soviet attempts to gain influence in the area, the official press indicated here last week.

This position had been expressed or suggested by Chinese officials in private talks with foreign visitors, but it had never been reflected so clearly in the official press.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) quoted a statement made recently at a symposium held in Manila by U.S. Naval Commander-in-Chief for the Pacific Thomas Killebrew.

Approvingly, NCNA said the commander "held that the United States must maintain its military strength in the Pacific to cope with that of the Soviet Union."

Observers here stressed that the NCNA dispatch referred to the U.S. naval forces and not to the American army.

The Chinese position on American ground forces has been expressed many times: No country has the right to base troops on the territory of other countries.

Peking remains inflexible on this point in the cases of South

Korea and Taiwan, calling for the pull-out of American forces from both of them.

Observers here recalled that China is seeking to avoid the creation in the region of a "void" that would enable Moscow to intensify its "expansionist" policies.

On the same subject, the official Chinese news agency has published two dispatches concerning the danger of a "surprise attack" on Europe by Warsaw Pact forces.

The first article, reprinted in the official People's Daily newspaper, quoted a story published last week in the British paper the Daily Telegraph warning against the possibility of a Soviet blitzkrieg against the West.

The second took up long extracts from an article in the magazine NATO Review written by U.S. Senator Sam Nunn, the Chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Subcommittee.

In the article, Sen. Nunn (Dem., Georgia) wrote about his conclusions following an investigative tour of Western Europe last year. He said a Soviet "surprise attack" against NATO forces would probably be one of "singular violence" and would be launched with the minimum of warning.

ECONOSCOPE By Jawad Ahmad

Is it feasible to make feasibility studies?

There is certainly a wide interest by Arab businessmen in feasibility studies. "Hey, let's make a feasibility study on that," you would hear everybody saying.

The proliferation of consulting firms which charge handsome fees for these studies is an indication of their wide popularity. Is this a healthy development which should be encouraged?

Five years ago we used to complain of the arbitrary methods of carrying out business activities. Rationalisation of these activities seemed like the panacea of all the troubles faced by businessmen.

In those days only government projects were subjected to feasibility studies. Most of them were done by foreign consulting firms which charged very high fees; they were either accepted at face value or shelved until they became obsolete.

Arab economists and technicians have the skills, to make these studies. Feasibility is covered by certain tricks, and, once uncovered, it all becomes simple.

Well, so now we can make those studies which once were the privileged work of the elite. The price of carrying them out is not as detrimental as it used to be, because you do not have to pay a local as much as a foreigner.

I would like to say that there is no necessary correlation between the number of feasibility studies and the degree of business rationality. Such studies do have their statistical and methodological shortcomings which make them less than perfect substitutes to common sense.

Market analysis, for instance, is often based on hyperbolic time-series which render any future prediction vulnerable. Moreover, probability estimates are based on the supposition of normal distribution, which is in most cases a heroic assumption.

Therefore, the whole business of feasibility, if half-baked, will be nothing more than guesstimating on the wrong grounds. Why pay money to get someone else's wrong prediction if the prediction is derived from the stars?

This however does not mean that feasibility studies cannot be useful. One must remember that they can be biased, and that the maker of a feasibility study can always direct it to where the customer wants it to go.

Unless feasibility studies are tested once in a while for their validity on sound predictions, they will become another luxury service. There are many things which we brag about, but we do not believe.

Let's have feasibility studies, but let's be on our guard.

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THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN

Expresses its deep sympathy at the sad death of HER MAJESTY QUEEN ALYA and announces the cancellation of the performances of Japanese traditional dance and music originally scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 16.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

One Jordanian daily Monday commented on the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to the Middle East, while a second daily took up the declarations of His Majesty King Hussein, to the Iranian News Agency, on the integration steps underway between Jordan and Syria.

AL RA'I, under the heading "Discovering flexibility," says that both the Arabs and the Israelis are convinced, each for different reasons, that the U.S. position on the Middle East crisis is the only important factor for both parties.

It seems that Mr. Vance's visit is concerned with looking for more flexibility from the Palestinians, even after their giving up of the idea of a democratic state in the whole of Palestine and accepting, instead, one to be set up only in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a position partly revealed by Dr. Kurt Waldheim, United Nations' General Secretary.

This only means, the paper adds, that the U.S. is asking the Palestinians for even more concessions and to accept a project similar to the Allon plan.

This new U.S. position is more dangerous, the paper says, than its previous position of ignoring the existence of the legitimate and also representative of the Palestinian people, for if new concessions are made as a price for the reconvening of the Geneva conference there will remain nothing for the Arabs to bargain with at the conference.

With this in mind, it seems that the freezing of the discussions on the formation of a Palestinian government and of the convening of the Palestinian National Council is a result of

the Palestinian's awareness of the U.S. move, or could be the result of their fear of publicly acknowledging a division in their ranks. In any case, the paper says, waiting cannot be to their detriment.

AL SHA'B, under the heading "The essence of Jordan's commitment," says that, in his interview with the Iranian News Agency, His Majesty King Hussein had explained the principles of the national work on which Jordan bases its internal and Arab relations aimed at the goal of transforming its national aspirations into realities.

Jordan's will to achieve comprehensive development, reiterated by His Majesty, and its present integration policy with Syria, are both indications of the earnest efforts of the two countries to achieve unity. These efforts which are being felt in all fields of integration and cooperation between Syria and Jordan, the paper says, are directed towards achieving two goals: The realisation of national aspirations of the people of the two countries; and the holding up of their bilateral cooperation as an example to be copied on the Arab level.

What has been achieved so far between the two countries, the paper adds, is proof of the national vision, and confirms that the Jordanian-Syrian march is but a step towards Arab unity.

His Majesty's praise of the Syrian role in Lebanon and his reiteration that the Geneva conference without the Palestinians cannot succeed are sure signs of the positive policy adopted by Jordan under the leadership of His Majesty on both the Arab and international levels and constitutes the essence of Jordan's commitment, the paper concludes.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

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6:00 Quran	10:15 Arabic series
6:05 Cartoons	
6:30 Walt Disney	
8:00 News in Arabic	7:30 The last of the Baskets
Channel 3 :	9:20 Rich man poor man
7:30 Arabic series	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic series	10:15 Hawaii 5-0

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(On 834 KHZ)	15:00 Concert hour
7:00 Morning melodies	16:00 Old favourites
7:30 News	16:30 Easy listening
7:40 News reports	17:00 Mail bag
8:00 Sign off	17:45 Pop session
12:00 Pop session	18:00 News summary
13:05 News summary	18:05 Arabs in history
14:00 News	18:30 Sing it again
14:10 Radio magazine	19:00 News
14:30 Special feature	19:30 News reports
	19:30 Sign off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors :	Lubna (44944)
Amman :	Hindi (24422)
Issa Abu Haidar (38670)	
Tayseer Saadi (77636)	
Irbid :	Irbid
Abdul Razzak Tbeishat	Nabulsi
Marwan Al Azzam	
Zarqa :	Zarqa
Fathi Abu Aqab	Abu Leil
	Royal
Pharmacies :	Taxis :
Amman :	Talal (25021)
Jabal Hashimi (51699)	Tower (21028)
Nihad (30844)	Khayam (41541)
	Nahda (83003)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals :	Departures :
7:30 Baghdad (IA)	8:00 Beirut
8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain	8:30 Baghdad (IA)
8:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
9:30 Kuwait (KAC)	10:15 Kuwait (KAC)
10:30 Beirut	10:30 Cairo
10:40 Karachi, Kuwait (BA)	
11:15 Aleppo, Damascus (SAA)	11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam
12:10 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)	11:25 London (BA)
14:10 Aqaba (SAA)	12:00 Aqaba (SAA)
17:00 Cairo	13:00 Athens (GA)
17:00 Moscow (SU)	14:45 Damascus (SAA)
17:10 London	18:00 Moscow (SU)
17:15 Paris, Rome	19:00 Bahrain, Bangkok
17:20 Copenhagen, Frankfurt	19:30 Abu Dhabi, Karachi
18:10 Madrid, Athens	21:00 Jeddah
18:15 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)	
19:40 Beirut (MEA)	22:55 Doha, Muscat
00:30 Rome (Alitalia)	01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 76111
Civil defence rescue	" 24291-4
Fire headquarters	" 22090
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41520
British Council	" 36147-3
French Cultural Centre	" 37009
Goethe Institute	" 41988
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44203
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	18:00
03:00 to 06:00	The Breakfast Show : 03:00, 04:00, 05:00 and 06:00 GMT : News, Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary, 03:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT : An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, answers to listeners' questions, Science Digest, News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analyses, News Summary, Dateline
06:30	Special English, New Feature : Science the News, News Summary, Now Music USA, News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinion, Analyses, VOA Magazine, American Science, Culture, Letters, Special English, New Music USA (Jazz), VOA World Report, News ... newsmakers voices ... correspondents' reports ... background features ... media commentaries ... news analyses

BBC RADIO

GMT	14:30
05:00	Talkabout
05:30	News, 24 hours
05:45	Radio Newsworld
06:00	Outlook
06:30	News, Commentary
06:45	Lord Peter Wimsey
07:00	Clouds of Witness
07:30	The World Today
07:45	News
08:00	Books and Writers
08:15	Take One
08:30	Sports Round-up
08:45	News, News about Britain
09:00	Radio Newsworld
09:15	Talkabout
09:30	Outlook, News Summary
09:45	Stock Market Report
10:00	One Piano, Four Hands
10:15	News, 24 hours
10:30	The Pleasure's Yours
10:45	Ulster 77
11:00	News, News about Britain
11:15	Alone I did it
11:30	Radio Newsworld
11:45	The Pleasure's Yours
12:00	News
12:15	Sports Round-up
12:30	News, 24 hours
12:45	Report on Religion
13:00	23:15
13:15	Nature Notebook

محور الصحافة

Palestinian talks with Jordan will succeed

Abu Mazen tells Al Dustour

AMMAN (R). — A Palestinian leader was quoted as saying that the Palestinians expected to succeed with Jordan in their negotiations to return to normal relations.

Abu Mazen said "the Arab nation should understand that in the eyes of the United States, Israel comes first. Therefore this nation should mobilise not only its military weapons for the battle but all its potential, including economic power, oil and money invested abroad."

Desert c'ttee ends meeting

AMMAN (JNA). — The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee for the Development of the Desert has recommended the strengthening of present resources in order to further develop pastures in both countries and the setting up of an independent and specialised working system in each country for the improvement of pastures and livestock and the provision of green, concentrated fodder and water resources for livestock.

Concluding its meeting in Damascus over the weekend, the committee also recommended close cooperation between the two countries' associations in sheep fattening, provision of fodder and the exporting of surplus livestock in either country to the other according to need.

The committee further recommended setting up pasture reserves for the conservation of certain kinds of important and rare grazing plants, threatened by extinction.

The joint committee is due to meet again in Amman in mid-March.

Arab satellite project to be discussed today

AMMAN (JNA). — Arab ministers of communications are due to meet in Cairo Tuesday to resume discussion on implementation of the Arab satellite project and on working out a master plan for an Arab institution for space communications.

Jordanian Minister of Communications Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Monday left here at the head of a delegation to attend the conference.

Mr. Al Rawabdeh said he will also discuss with his Egyptian counterpart possible Jordanian exemption from charges paid to Egypt for mail transportation by Egyptian vessels to and from Aqaba.



His Majesty King Hussein Monday welcomes Qatar's Minister of Social and Labour Affairs Ali Al Anasri, in Amman to pay his condolences on the death of Queen Ailya on behalf of his country's ruler Sheikh Khalifah bin Hamad Al Thani. (JNA photo).

DRIVERS WITH FOREIGN LICENSE DO NOT VIOLATE TRAFFIC LAW

AMMAN (JNA). — Maj-Gen. Ghazi Arabiyat, the Director of Public Security, has circulated an explanation of the recent traffic law to the effect that people driving a Jordanian car while holding a foreign driving license should not be considered to have violated the Jordanian traffic law as long as the license in question is valid and meets the requirements of the local traffic law.

Minister visits housing projects in Amman area

AMMAN (JNA). — The Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Mr. Ibrahim Ayoub, Monday made an inspection tour of all housing projects under implementation in the Amman area.

The tour included the Marj Al Hamam housing project, 15 kms southwest of here. A total of 114 apartment units are under construction, and due for completion within the next two months at a total cost of JD 500,000.

Mourners continue to arrive King Hussein receives Queen Sophia of Spain

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court Sunday Queen Sophia of Spain, who offered her condolences and those of King Juan Carlos on the death of the late Queen Ailya.

The King said Jordan and Lebanon were linked by strong relations and had the same fate and aspirations. He hoped Lebanon would surmount its difficulties and achieve stability and security.

King Hussein also received a Lebanese delegation which offered its condolences in the name of Lebanese President Elias Sarkis. The delegation included Speaker of the Lebanese House of Representatives Kamel As'ad, Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss and a number of house members.

Former Lebanese Prime Minister Saeb Salam also called on the King Sunday.

On Monday, Sheikh Tahnoon bin Mohammad Al Nahayyan, Governor of the eastern province of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Mr. Ali Al Anasri, Qatari Minister of Social and Labour Affairs, offered their condolences to the King in the name of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Nahyan of the UAE and Sheikh Khalifah bin Hamad Al Thani, ruler of Qatar, respectively.

Cables of sympathy were received from President Yen Chia-kan, Prime Minister Chiang Ching-kuo, Foreign Minister Shen Chang-huan and Economics Minister Y.S. Sun, all of nationalist China, as well as Dawood Hsu, President of the Chinese Moslem Association.

Dajani leaves for Egyptian trade talks

AMMAN (Agencies). — The Minister of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Najmeddin Dajani Sunday left here for Cairo for talks on expansion of trade between the two countries and on the trade protocol concluded in 1967.

He followed it by a visit to the Marka housing project, which includes 1,000 housing units due to be completed in early 1978.

The Director General of the Housing Corporation, Mr. Hamdallah Nabulsi, accompanied him on his tour.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian filis for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:		
U.K. sterling	570.0	576.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	138.7	139.1
French franc	66.9	67.2
Swiss franc	132.5	132.9
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.7	37.9
Saudi riyal	94.6	94.8
Lebanese pound	108.9	109.8
Syrian pound	81.9	82.2
Iraqi dinar	940.0	948.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,152	1,159
Egyptian pound	470.0	480.0
Libyan dinar	790.0	800.0
UAE dirham	85.5	86.0

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Land shortages haunt Indonesia's countless inhabitants

MAKARTIJAYA, Indonesia (C-SM) — Outboard motor fumes mix with the steamy haze as the narrow boat skims along. Overhead a canvas canopy fights off the tropical sun.

The boat is heading for Makartijaya, a new village 45 kms. upriver from Palembang, the nearest major city. This is the Ujung Delta of Sumatra, one of the 13,000 islands that make up the Republic of Indonesia, the most heavily populated country in Southeast Asia. And that is the rub: Although Indonesia has 130 million people, many parts of the archipelago, like Makartijaya, are uncrowded.

Eight years ago, in fact, there was nothing here but hot tidal swampland. But today, along the canals that lead back from the Musi River, there are five new villages. About 3,000 people call this place home. Paths stretching along the canal banks are lined with huts, shops and small cultivated areas.

Many of the families here once lived hundreds of miles away on crowded East Java or Bali, where they were poor landless labourers. They remain poor, even as they struggle to produce rice, corn and cassava, but now they hold some hope for their futures because they own their own land.

The people of Makartijaya are homesteaders, some of nearly 50,000 families that have been resettled on such relatively underpopulated islands as Sumatra and Kalimantan (Borneo) since the country began a programme in 1969 to relieve overpopulation, improve the lot of the landless poor and politically integrate the

outer islands.

The programme provides each family of homesteaders with land, seed, a basic \$300 house and 18 months of free food. It is called transmigration and was first experimented with by Dutch colonialists in 1906.

But transmigration on a scale large enough to solve the population problem in places like Java, experts say, would be enormously expensive, costing up to \$4,000 per family.

Then there is the land reclamation problem. The government seeks to reclaim 10,000 sq. kms. of swampland (the country may have as many as 50,000 sq. kms. in all) for agriculture by means of dredging and a system of new canals to drain the marshes at low tide and to irrigate them with fresh water at high tide.

But the reclamation target for the country's second five-year plan (1974 to 1979) has been lowered to 2,500 sq. kms. Officials say difficulties in buying needed dredging equipment are behind the cutback. Independent experts, however, say the retrenchment is more likely due to an unforeseen \$6-billion-to-\$10-billion debt caused by the financial mismanagement of the state oil company, Pertamina.

For the first time last year the World Bank stepped in to support the transmigration programme with a \$30 million loan for a project in Sumatra. Experts say the 170,000 sq. kms. of cultivable land in Indonesia theoretically can be doubled if an agricultural base is built in the outer islands, if new crops can be found, and if

settlers are taught new farming methods.

Even as these projects continue, however, the population back on Java — already 75 million people — grows by as many as 2 million a year as people exchange the isolation of rural Sumatra and Kalimantan for the hope of a job and better life around Jakarta.

Government regulations bar migration to Jakarta except by those who can show they have jobs, shelter and money for a return trip. Yet the city's population is said to grow by more than 150,000 persons a year. By most estimates, Jakarta now holds at least 5 million people.

Jakarta is perhaps best characterised by its crowded and unpaved kampungs, or "urban villages". Up to one sq. km. of them are added annually, while the existing ones become still more crowded.

From December to March high water levels along the city's rivers and the Java sea-front mix with rainfall from the west monsoon. Mud clogs walkways and narrow streets. Floods pour into first-floor dwellings.

To try to cope with the problem, Jakarta municipal authorities also have been busy with a programme of their own, again with World Bank assistance.

The city's governor, Ali Saidikin, has pioneered an approach designed to make a little go a long way. With only about \$4.25 million a year available to tackle its enormous population problems, the city has opted for improved transportation, sanitation and flood control rather than a massive

new housing programme or urban renewal.

Since 1969, 165 kampungs covering 43 sq. kms. and affecting about 2 million persons have been improved to one degree or another, according to official statistics.

But there are those who see dangers in the kampung improvement programme. Some economists familiar with the Jakarta situation are concerned that continued improvement may tend to push the city's poorer residents into new zones of squalid housing still farther from downtown.

As land values rise because of such projects, impoverished persons desperate for income sometimes subvert what property they have to those more prosperous and then move themselves farther out. There they build new shelters in unimproved areas.

Meanwhile, the programme has been unable to help many of the poorest — the landless migrants who flock to Jakarta in the hope that even odd jobs will give them a better living than precarious seasonal farm labour.

The answer to the problem, however, say economists, lies back where the migrants are coming from — in the countryside. They point to projects such as the Jatiluhur Irrigation Authority, across the dusty Jakarta Plain in Western Java, which also is financed in part by a World Bank credit.

This massive water management project affects 3 million people and unifies 11 river basins. It also helps increase the vital food supply by supporting two rice crops a year instead of one.

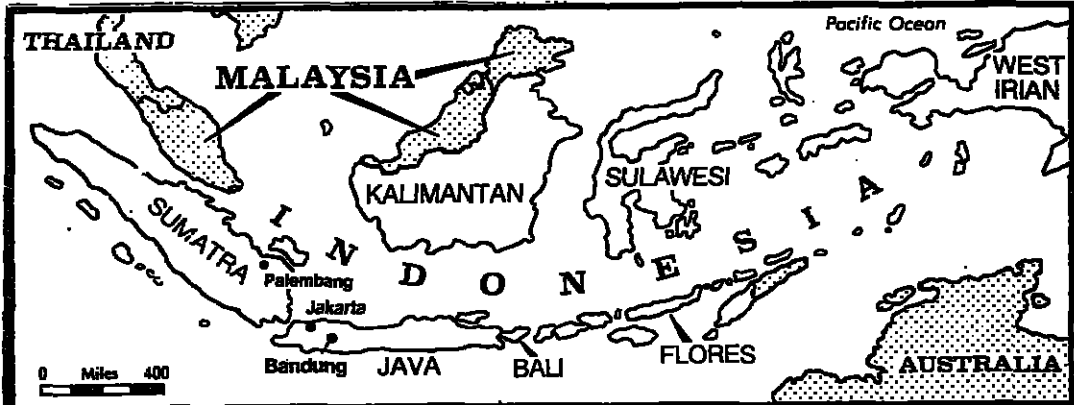
The 2,500 sq. km. of farmland that lie within the Jatiluhur district make up 3 per cent of Indonesia's rice fields and produce 8 per cent of its harvest.

The Jatiluhur project has produced some measurable results. There is more food than before local consumption and for selling. This has brought such prosperity to the area resident says proudly: "There are now 56 motorcycles and one car in my village."

Even here, however, the situation is not without its negative side. Jatiluhur has a me-



A jigsaw pattern of terraced rice paddies glistens on Bali.



A father and his child from Bali.



On Bali, one of 13,000 islands that make up Indonesia, a duck "shepherd" heads across a rice paddy at dawn.

chanised rice mill run by the village association. And while nearly everyone agrees that it is a faster, cheaper and more efficient method of hulling the harvested rice than manual labour used to be, it has put the women of the village out of work. Once they hulled the rice at the rate of 2 kgs. a day, keeping a small portion as their pay.

At the same, many of the landless field-hands who used to harvest the rice by means of a small tool held in the palm — earning as little as 35 cents a day in the process — have been rendered jobless by the adoption of a larger and more efficient sickle.

What ultimately is needed, say some economists, is new labour-intensive industry that can use the unemployed.

Despite improved crop yields, construction of new roads and schools, and the introduction of an increasing number of consumer goods into the countryside, they say, migration to the cities can be expected to continue unless there is more serious discussion and careful planning of the kinds of large and small industries that can provide new jobs for displaced workers.

Says one expert, looking at the problem: "There is no going backwards."



An elderly woman hulls rice in the fields.

Soviet economic indicators fall below expected 1976 figures

MOSCOW, (C-SM). — More evidence that some radically new economic thinking is needed in the Soviet Union ... a damper on Soviet ambitions to catch up with the U.S. economy ... more long lines ahead for weary Soviet shoppers outside meat and vegetable shops ...

These appear to be the main implications emerging from the long lists of figures summing up the performance of the Soviet economy in 1976. The figures were published here last month.

In several important areas, the Kremlin has grounds for disappointment. Western analysts believe. Hopes to step up the productivity of each worker fell short of target and are well below the 1975 figure. Shortages of meat, evident here since feed grain ran short after the disastrous harvest of 1975, are confirmed in figures that contradict the picture painted by Agriculture Minister Valentin Mesyats a few weeks before.

And a series of 1976 goals either was barely met or not met at all — even though the goals themselves had been reduced to some of the lowest levels since World War II. There were some successes. Grain production was an all-time record, now put at 224 million tonnes, 200,000 tonnes higher than Mr. Mesyats had indicated.

Energy results were promising. The Soviets stayed ahead of the United States in oil production by raising production last year by almost 6 per cent to 520 million tonnes. Coal and natural gas production also showed gains.

Generally, however, Western analysts say it will be much harder now for Moscow not only to achieve its own goals for the current five-year period ending in 1980, but also to close the gap between itself and the United States.

The declared Soviet aim is to equal by 1980 the U.S. output of 1976.

In Washington and elsewhere, analysts have long noted the Kremlin's reluctance to shake up the system with new ideas. At the 25th party congress a year ago premier Alexei Kosygin called for greater productivity and efficiency, less waste and steady, purposeful growth.

He seemed to be saying that growth might be slower but more measured. It was clear that upon increased productivity lay hopes for good growth in a range of areas, given lower investments and competing sectors clamouring for greater shares of a finite economy.

So the labour-productivity figure for 1976 was watched closely. It turned out to have risen only 3.3 per cent, the smallest increase for at least 25 years, observers say. It was just below last year's performance of a 5.9 per cent rise.

Figures on meat also aroused unusual interest. Mr. Mesyats had indicated that production was higher than in 1975. Western analysts failed to see how this could be so. It turns out that production was down

more than 14 per cent at 13.3 million tonnes.

Despite enormous efforts, farmers did not increase cattle herds. They did hold onto steady, however. Numbers of sheep and goats declined; pigs were higher — no mean achievement.

Because of early frosts, fewer potatoes were available or sold in state stores last year. No figures were given for private markets, where many women go for potatoes and other fruit and vegetables.

State shop sales of fruit dropped 6 per cent, confirming poor crops. Although meat sales were down, fish jumped 14 per cent.

Basic economic barometres were lower than hoped for last year. Industrial production (4.8 per cent) surpassed the reduced goal of 4.3 per cent, but it was well below the increase last year (7.5 per cent).

The closest figure the Soviets have to gross national product is national income. It rose 5 per cent — below the target of 5.4 per cent, though a 1 per cent recovery from 1975.

Particularly striking were the low productivity rises in construction (up 3.3 per cent

against a target of 5.5) and railroads (up 1.3 per cent, against a target of 3).

On the brighter side, a cultural output was up 4 per cent (last year it fell 6 per cent). Foreign-trade turnover was up only 10 per cent, out one-third the increase 1975, reflecting lower grain purchases among other items.

Car production was up per cent at 1,239,000.

Rounding out a gloomy summer outlook was light industry (consumer goods) which barely achieved the reduced target of 2.7 per cent. Industry rose 5.5 per cent (target: 4.9).

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هكذا هي القصة

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 1063
♥ 64
♦ A4
♣ A109632

EAST
♠ K74
♥ J985
♦ Q103
♣ J1052

SOUTH
♠ A2
♥ AK97
♦ Q863
♣ J5

The bidding:
South West North East
1NT Pass 3NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Two of ♣.

"Second hand low" is a sound principle. However, there are cases where it is correct for second hand to play high. Study this deal and decide whether West should play high or low when he is put to the test in the club suit.

North-South bid quickly to their no trump game. Even had South made the alternative opening bid of one heart because of his weakness in clubs, his side would surely still have arrived at the nine-trick game. West's lead of a low diamond was fortuitous—it attacked the only entry to dummy's long clubs. Declarer played low from dummy. East won the king and returned the suit, driving out the ace. Declarer crossed to his hand with the king of hearts and led the jack of

clubs. Should West cover or duck? Decide for yourself before reading on.

Let us consider what

might happen in both cases. If West plays low and East wins the queen, declarer will repeat the club finesse when he next gains the lead. That will enable him to bring in five club tricks and his contract.

If West plays the king, declarer cannot afford to win the ace, for then his club suit will be shut out. However, he can let West hold the trick, win any return and then lead another club. If South elects to repeat the finesse, East will win the queen and the club suit will again be shut out, and this time declarer will not have scored a club trick. But what if declarer decides to go up with the ace of clubs on the second round? That will drop East's queen and allow declarer to run the club suit. But at least this defense will force declarer to guess at his second turn.

On the surface, therefore, it seems right for West to play high. But that is not so. The winning defense is for West to follow low and for East to refuse to win the trick! That way, declarer can score two club tricks but no more, and the contract will be defeated.

Here's a rule of thumb: When dummy has a long suit, second hand should play an honor if it is doubleton but play low when it is twice guarded.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



Snowbound American scene -- Peterborough, New Hampshire -- A reminder of what has just passed.



GRAFFITI
EMPLOYEES
DON'T TURN
IN DUPLICATE
SUGGESTIONS--
THE BOSS
ALREADY KNOWS
WHERE HE
CAN GO

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

RICH MAN POOR MAN : CHAPTER 7

Tom continues his search for his wife and entangles with a crime organisation from which he is obliged to run, to save his life.

HAWAII 5-0 :

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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

QASUW
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

GHEED
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

SEECIX
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

BELBUB
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Sunday's Jumbles: WEIGH DITTO HEIFER ASTRAY
Answer: Score under a hundred—EIGHTY

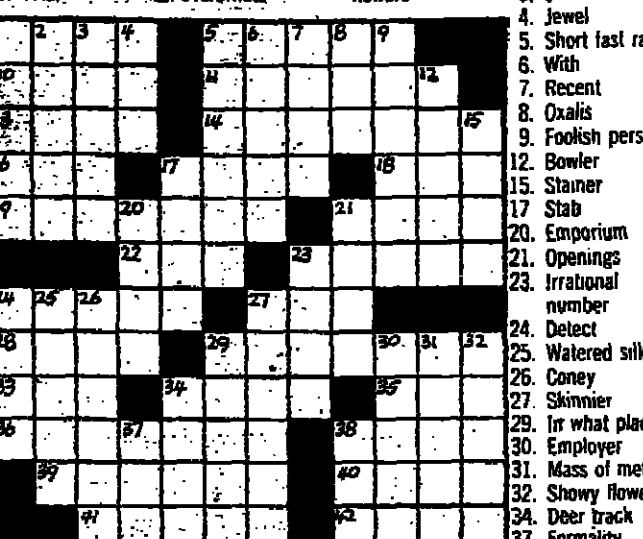
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Batrachian
5. Art exhibition
10. Bath
11. Unruffled
13. Cuckoo
14. Whirled
16. Coagulate
17. Droop
18. Crooked
19. Apparent
21. Mock
22. Anzi

BACK AGAIN!

The Jordan Times is pleased to tell its readers that it is now able to resume publication of the daily crossword. Again, we apologise for keeping our crossword fans waiting so long.

DOWN
1. Sweet and blue flowers
2. Peep show
3. Seed
4. Jewel
5. Short fast race
6. Width
7. Recent
8. Oasis
9. Foolish person
10. Bowler
11. Stainer
12. Stab
13. Emporium
14. Openings
15. Irrational number
16. Detect
17. Watered silk
18. Coney
19. Skimmer
20. In what place
21. Employer
22. Mass of metal
23. Showy flower
24. Deer track
25. Formality
26. Wallaby



OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE

Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation please call 41361 ext. 5.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabbal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21063. Jabbal Al Luweibdeh, Tel. 30646. Jabbal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema, Tel. 21781. Also in Zarka and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabbal Amman, near the Abhiyah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT

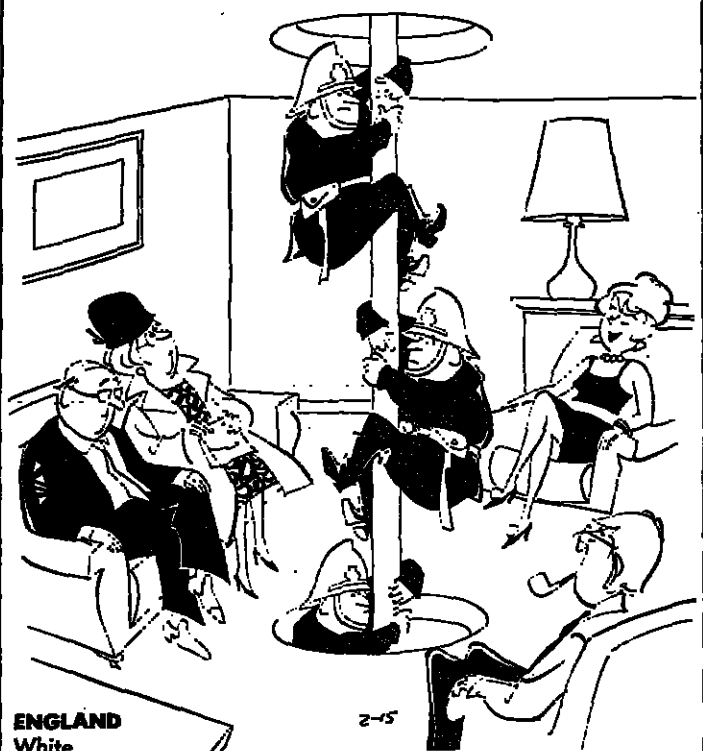
First Circle, Jabbal Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

ELITE STEAKHOUSE

Firas Wings Hotel, Jabbal Al Luweibdeh. Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

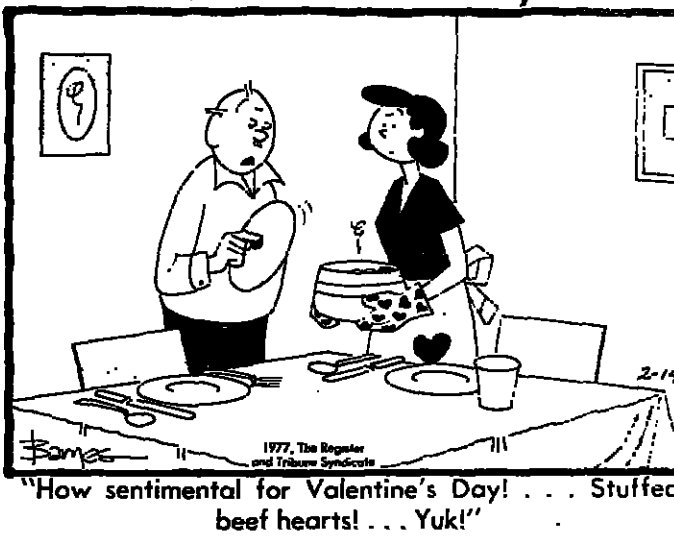
LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



ENGLAND
White

"Of course, our flat isn't perfect, but the rent is very low."

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



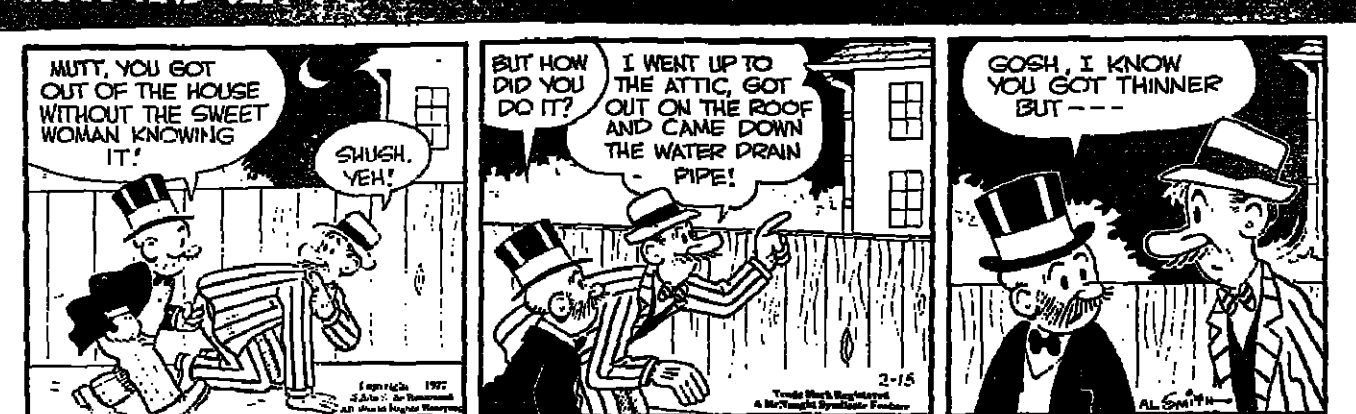
PEANUTS



THE FLINTSTONES



MUTT AND JEFF



Soares begins European tour to win support for Portugal's EEC entry

LISBON, Feb. 14 (R). — Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares began a West European tour in London today, convinced he can win support for his country's entry into the Common Market.

At a weekend meeting of the National Committee of his Socialist Party, Dr. Soares voiced optimism once again that Portugal will be successful with an application for full EEC membership that is expected shortly after he has completed a tour of all nine Com-

mon Market capitals next month.

Earlier he told young Socialists: "We are a European country, and this is our European hour."

But the prime minister, whose seven-month-old minority government faces severe economic problems and a first major clash with organised labour, made no attempt to hide the difficulties ahead.

He told his supporters that time was pressing for the young Portuguese democracy. Ne-

ighbouring Spain was due to hold elections in May and would also ask for entry into the Common Market. Portugal did not want to lag behind, he said.

Portugal is already assured of British support for its entry into the EEC and also has the backing of West Germany.

Dr. Soares, making his first official visit to Britain as prime minister, will have talks today with an old friend and fellow Socialist — British Prime Minister James Callaghan.

In London, officials said that British ministers, while fully supporting the principle of Portuguese membership, recognised that the country's comparatively under-developed economy would not be able to cope with all the obligations of EEC membership for some time.

Britain is the current Chairman of the EEC Council of Ministers, which has already given a qualified welcome to Portugal's Common Market aspirations.

From London, Dr. Soares will travel to Dublin, Copenhagen and Rome. The second stage of his diplomatic offensive in EEC capitals will take him to Paris, Bonn, the Hague and Luxembourg next month before he ends his tour in the Common Market capital, Brussels, on March 12.

As Dr. Soares leaves, his government is trying to end a fishermen's strike which has lasted nearly three weeks, an overtime ban by merchant seamen in sympathy with the fishermen and partial stoppages in the textile industry.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14 (Agencies). — The man once chosen to head the Bank of Israel, Asher Yadlin, pleaded guilty on corruption charges here today and said he gave the money to the election campaign fund of the ruling Labour Party.

Mr. Yadlin said he acted "under constant pressure" from the late Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir and the present Minister, Yehoshua Rabinowitz, who was then party treasurer.

Accepting responsibility for a series of bribery and fraud cases involving some 150,000 Israeli pounds, he said "I managed to find millions which financed the Labour Party's activities" at the time of the 1973 general election.

Mr. Yadlin was arrested several months ago after a police investigation of press allegations.

He had a heart attack in prison following the suicide in December of his friend the Housing Minister Avraham Ofer, who had been accused in the press of corruption on what police later said were largely unsubstantiated grounds.

Mr. Yadlin was director of the Workers' Sick Fund of the Histadrut, the Israeli federation of labour, when the government chose him as next governor of the Bank of Israel.

He told the court that he gave the money he acquired to his cousin Mr. Aharon Yadlin, the Education and Culture Minister, who was secretary general of the Labour Party at the time.

Court sources said the judge decided to pass sentence on Mr. Yadlin on Feb. 22.

The rightwing Israeli opposition group Likud today demanded the suspension of Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz after he was accused in court of involvement in corruption.

Mr. Rabinowitz refused to comment on the allegations of Mr. Asher Yadlin, while Likud's call for Mr. Rabinowitz's suspension came in a motion seeking an emergency debate.

Israel holds talks in Washington over U.S. veto of Kfir jet sales

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14 (AFP). — The chairman of the Israeli Aeronautics Industry headed a trade delegation to Ecuador after the U.S. vetoed the sale by

Israel to Ecuador of Kfir jet fighters, it was learned here yesterday.

A spokesman for the industry told AFP that Israel was also holding talks in Washington to get the decision modified.

The U.S. ban on sales of the jet, which was equipped with American-built engines, dealt a serious blow to Israeli exporters.

The Trade Federation, said the spokesman, would spare no effort to safeguard aeronautical exports in general and Kfir sales in particular.

Analysts have said the U.S. veto reflected an American drive to de-emphasise military aid and discourage military sales to Latin America in general, at least in the short term.

sweltering August, you may find yourself shivering in the local supermarket.

A few months later, you have to open your apartment windows because there are no individual controls for the central heating.

In 1975 former President Gerald Ford put forward a number of energy conservation proposals, but nothing much came out of them because Congress, along with the rest of the country, had already forgotten the 1973-74 oil embargo's effects.

Mr. Carter's programme will probably incorporate many of these earlier ideas, but the regulations will no doubt be tougher.

Imposing stringency is made easier by the recent bitter cold wave. The experts are unanimous in forecasting that the present shortage is not an isolated phenomenon but will return a year from now.

Drought conditions meanwhile could lead to an electricity shortfall in the West, as hydroelectric plants run out of water.

The current natural gas shortage in the industrial regions could last even as far as next October, as the gas companies replenish their stocks ahead of winter.

There is little doubt in the United States that the cold wave of the past few weeks has revealed to the general public how much more energy is used than produced.

But old habits die hard, and Mr. Carter's forthcoming programme will be designed to give a severe jolt to the nation's complacency.

Euro-Arab dialogue's commune shows opinion differences on status of PLO

TUNIS, Feb. 14 (R). — Arab League and European Common Market negotiators ended a session of their "Euro-Arab Dialogue" yesterday after an all-night session that yielded only meagre results and failed to resolve differences on economic issues and the Palestinian state.

The divergences between the 20-member Arab League and the nine Common Market states emerged from a 13-page communique issued yesterday morning after the all-night bargaining.

The EEC team, led by British Foreign Office Under-Secretary Richard Faber, refused to meet Arab demands to bestow formal acknowledgement on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) — although it accepted the PLO as a member in the Arab delegation.

The EEC, the communique showed, held firm to a previously stated view of the Palestinian case, short of formal acceptance of the principle of Palestinian statehood.

Makarios: Cypriot talks' agreement includes compromises by both sides

NICOSIA, Feb. 14 (R). — An agreement to reopen the Vienna talks on the political future of Cyprus contains compromises by both the Greek- and Turkish-Cypriots, according to Archbishop Makarios, the Cypriot President.

The precise terms of the agreement — reached on Saturday at a four-hour meeting between Archbishop Makarios, Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş and U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim — have not been announced.

But Archbishop Makarios told a press conference yesterday that he made a "serious concession" in agreeing that the negotiations should aim to set up a Cyprus state organised on a federal "bi-communal" basis.

Mr. Denktaş has been demanding what he describes as a "bi-zonal" system under which the central government would have only weak powers.

The archbishop said he felt the Turkish-Cypriots made their concessions on the principles of territory and freedom of settlement.

The Greek-Cypriots want the return of a significant part of the land occupied by the Turkish army after its 1974 invasion and now inhabited by Turkish-Cypriots.

Mr. Denktaş said yesterday that concessions were necessary for a political settlement, adding: "I would say there was considerable movement by the Greek side in the right direction."

He said that even if all went

well, it would probably take a year or 18 months to reach a settlement.

The Vienna talks, which broke down in total deadlock last February, are now due to reconvene at the end of March under Mr. Waldheim's auspices.

Meanwhile, Seventy-year-old Mr. Clark Clifford sets off for Cyprus tomorrow on a fact-finding mission that marks the return to world politics of a top Washington insider.

Mr. Clifford was one of the

late President Truman's closest advisers, a President Kennedy confidante and President Lyndon Johnson's last secretary of defence.

Now, with the Democratic Party again in power, the veteran lawyer is once more at work for the White House.

This time he will be making a two-week Cyprus visit to determine what, if anything, President Carter's administration can do to help bring about a permanent settlement on the divided island.

Indira Gandhi's aunt to campaign for opposition

NEW DELHI, Feb. 14 (R). — The aunt of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, today announced she would campaign for opposition in next month's Indian general election.

Mrs. Pandit, 76, sister of the late Jawaharlal Nehru, independent India's first prime minister, said she loved Mrs. Gandhi very dearly, but was greatly distressed at trends in India since a state of internal emergency was imposed in June 1975.

"The corrosion of democracy must stop," white-haired Mrs. Pandit, a former President of the U.N. General Assembly, told a press conference on the lawn of former Agriculture Minister Jagjivan Ram's residence here.

Mr. Ram, who resigned from Mrs. Gandhi's ruling Congress Party this month, heads an opposition group known as Congress for Democracy.

Mrs. Pandit will be making a two-week Cyprus visit to determine what, if anything, President Carter's administration can do to help bring about a permanent settlement on the divided island.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has turned down an opposition suggestion that a television debate be held between her and some selected opposition leaders on the country's economic and political issues, including the continued state of emergency.

The Indian national news agency Samachar yesterday learned "authoritatively" that the proposal had been found to be not practical.

The debate was suggested in a letter to Mrs. Gandhi by the General Secretary of the newly formed non-Communist Janata (People's) Party, I. K. Advani, on the eve of next month's parliamentary poll. He released the letter to the press on Saturday.

In a separate development, President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmad was buried yesterday with full state honours in the grounds of a small New Delhi mosque where he prayed regularly for many years.

RHODESIA'S OUTSPOKEN BISHOP APPEALS AGAINST JAIL SENTENCE

SALISBURY, Feb. 14 (R). — Roman Catholic Bishop Donald Lamont appealed today to Rhodesia's Appeal Court against a 10-year jail sentence for not telling the security forces about black nationalist guerrilla activity.

Bishop Lamont, 65, pleaded guilty in Umtali Regional Court late last year to four charges of failing to report the presence of guerrillas or of inciting others not to report their presence.

The charges arose from visits by guerrillas seeking medical supplies from mission stations in his diocese.

Bishop Lamont, one of the white minority government's most outspoken critics, has maintained in an open letter that government policy is mainly responsible for the guerrilla war.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Carter's energy policy will be conservationist

By Georges Deschodt

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 (AFP). — It is becoming increasingly certain that President Carter will build his April energy programme around the theme of conservation.

White House Energy Advisor James Schlesinger has several times stressed the need for conservation.

There are two basic reasons for this: (1) It ought to be easy to effect savings in a country where per capita consumption is, for example, twice that in West Germany.

(2) Conservation is seen as the best short term way of coping with present shortages, since measures to boost natural gas and nuclear power out-

put will take years to produce results.

The appetite for the Americans for energy is shown up in statistics for 1973: In that year they used the equivalent of almost 12 tons of coal per person, as against a figure of 5.8 tons in West Germany, 4.4 tons in France and 3.6 tons in Japan.

This high consumption has long been a feature of the American way of life. The automobile is regarded as indispensable for suburban households.

They need the car for going to the shopping centre, because the old-style "corner shop" has virtually disappeared. They need it, too, for getting to and from work in many cities where public transport is far from satisfactory.

But the Americans have got used to driving short distances, even though doctors advise them to walk for their health.

Local authorities, noting that cars are used so much, see no urgent reason to improve public transportation.

Some authorities have a curious way of encouraging the public to use their facilities. Washington last year inaugurated the final section of a subway system. But has imposed a higher fare during peak travelling times.

Heating and air-conditioning take a huge amount of energy in this country, where the temperature differentials tend to be very wide.

But the systems have an annoying tendency to over-compensate. In the middle of a

Israeli government, unions agree on freeze till June 30

TEL AVIV, Feb. 14 (R). — The government and Israel's Trade Union Federation signed an agreement today to freeze wages, prices and taxes until June 30 in an attempt to break a steep spiral of inflation and calm growing labour unrest.

Inflation last year ran nearly as high as 40 per cent.

Today's agreement was at once attacked by the opposition rightwing Likud Bloc and by the Private Manufacturers' Association.

They called it an election stunt — Israel votes in a general election on May 18 — and said it would be impossible to implement.

Some trade unions also opposed the wage freeze part of the deal.

The agreement, worked out in Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office after a day of frantic consultations, freezes all prices except of seasonal fruit and vegetables.

No government or municipal taxes will be raised, and no new wages talks will be started.

Dividends to be paid during the four-month period are not allowed to be higher than those allocated last year.

The government intends to seek the approval of the Knesset, but should that fail the

ruling Labour party is in a minority in the house — intends to implement the deal through emergency defence regulations, Finance Ministry sources said.

The agreement faced immediate trouble on the labour front.

The 15,000-strong Engineers' Union said it would go ahead with a one-day strike on Thursday and academics in government service said they would join the engineers.

Hospital maintenance workers and Tax Department employees also said they would not back down from demands for salary increases.

WALL STREET REPORT

A late afternoon rally lifted prices to a good gain in moderate trading Monday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average closed about seven points higher. The market was in the doldrums throughout most of the session but recovered suddenly during the last two hours.

Gainers led losers at the bell by a small 734 to 685 margin. Auto, steel, chemical and aircraft issues registered some steady gains along with aluminium and machinery shares.

At the close the industrial average shows at 938.33, a gain of 6.81 points; Transp at 223.74, a loss of 0.50; utilities at 105.89, a loss of 0.19. 19,230,000 shares changed hands of which 4,540,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Shares took a further battering Monday as sterling sharply extended its recent downturn due to the growing opposition of unions to continued wage restraint and the announcement of the worst trade deficit for Britain in January since November 1974.

Heavy selling brought losses reaching two pounds in gilt-edged stocks. The sell-off hit industrials just as hard. By the close the Financial Times index had plunged 15.2 points to 366.3.

Among leaders to slide by up to twenty pence were Beecham, Glaxo, ICI, Unilever and Pilkington. The depression spread to foods, breweries, buildings, stores, textiles, electricals and ship-pings. Banks, including Hong Kong and Shanghai, and properties similarly suffered. Oils were sharply down in the wake of British Petroleum — down more than twenty pence.

Eastern issues were generally weaker with Canon, Honda, Jardine Matheson, Hong Kong Land, and Sime Darby. Guthrie eased in rubbers although Consolidated Plantations went against the lower trend.

In contrast, golds improved along with the bullion prices. With the metal value jumping to a new record on the metal exchange, time such as Ayer Hitam went ahead.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at 136.45.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

SANAA, Feb. 14 (R). — An eight-nation conference here on maritime wealth in the Red Sea is discussing setting up marine science stations in some of the ports of the region, conference sources said yesterday. The week-long conference which opened here Saturday is being attended by delegates from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan, Jordan, Somalia, Southern Yemen and the host country, Yemen. It is also attended by representatives from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The sources said that conference had also discussed the possible expansion of facilities now existing in Agaba, Jordan; Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Port Sudan, Sudan; and Ghar-daga and Suez in Egypt. The conference is sponsored by the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (AESCO).

KUWAIT, Feb. 14 (R). — Kuwait yesterday decided to increase the state's contribution to the capital of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development by 45 million Kuwaiti dinars (290 million). A spokesman for the fund said the new contribution would raise Kuwait's share in the Kuwait-based pan-Arab fund to 76 million dinars, representing 19 per cent of the fund's capital of 400 million dinars (2800 million).

BRUSSELS, Feb. 14 (R). — Common Market ministers today examined new proposals for higher food prices which have already brought protests from farmers who believe the increases are not large enough. Agriculture and finance ministers began separate meetings to examine an average three per cent rise the EEC Executive Commission wants in prices paid to farmers. But the farmers, through their Brussels lobby organisation COPA, have asked for a 7.4 per cent rise and the West German Farmers' Association denounced the commission's new price package as "totally unreasonable."

ABU DHABI, Feb. 14 (R). — Health ministers of the seven Gulf Arab states started a three-day conference here today aimed at expanding cooperation between them in the fields of health and medicine. Officials said the conference's agenda included the streamlining of health codes, cooperation in fighting epidemics, such as malaria, co-ordinated drug purchasing policies and the setting up of a Gulf nursing college.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

LUSAKA, Zambia, Feb. 14 (AFP). — Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny will visit Zambia and other Southern African countries from the second week in March, a Soviet embassy spokesman confirmed here today. Negotiations were still under way to set exact dates for the Soviet head of state's visits to the various African capitals, the spokesman said.

DAR ES SALAAM, Feb. 14 (R). — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere yesterday carried out a major reshuffle of his government, promoting 38-year-old Defence Minister Edward Sokoke to Prime Minister in place of Mr. Rashid Kawawa. The reshuffle appeared to be a major demotion for Mr. Kawawa, 51, who also lost the post of second vice president which he has held for 12 years.

TOKYO, Feb. 14 (AFP). — Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda today denied reports that the Japanese government had agreed in principle to a United States plan to phase out American ground troops from South Korea. He told parliament he had exchanged views with U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale on the U.S. military strength in South Korea when they met here late last month. But he added that Japan would not intervene in the problem, which he said primarily concerned South Korea and the United States.

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 14 (R). — Signs of some ill-feeling towards the appointment of Lieut.-Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam as Ethiopian head of state emerged today in spite of warnings about a stiff crackdown on opposition. Small demonstrations involving mainly students were reported from several parts of the city over the weekend following Friday's announcement that the 39-year-old colonel had been made chairman of the ruling Military Council, the "Dergue."

ATHENS, Feb. 14 (R). — A small home-made bomb went off yesterday inside an Athens cinema showing the film "Victory at Entebbe", a police spokesman said here. The bomb damaged the projection room. A second explosive device was found yesterday, in another cinema showing the same film, but military experts removed and defused it. Last month Greek cinemas stopped showing the film, dramatising the Israeli release of hostages from Uganda last year, following threats by an underground group.

Following are parts of the final text of the communique issued in Tunis at the end of the Euro-Arab dialogue Sunday: "Both sides noted with satisfaction the positive spirit, the objectivity and frankness characterising this meeting, which they are agreed has succeeded in cementing the idea of the dialogue, strengthening its foundations and promoting better acquaintance between both sides with the areas of joint cooperation. The meeting embodied the joint political will of both sides as underlined by the foreign ministers of the European group at their meeting in London on Jan. 31 and the Arab foreign ministers in their Cairo meeting on Jan. 15.

"This meeting provided both sides with the opportunity to exchange views on all aspects of Euro-Arab cooperation, political, economic, social and cultural. Both sides examined carefully each other's positions and considered extensively a number of important topics related to these aspects of their cooperation. "Both sides emphasised their great concern about security in the Middle East and its implications for Europe world security. They expressed full awareness of the dangers inherent in the persistence of the current stalemate and of their mutual interest in the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. "Both sides explained their views on the Middle East problem, including the question of Palestine. They noted with great interest the statements

made by each other in this respect. They reaffirmed that a solution to the question of Palestine based on the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people is a crucial factor in achieving a just and lasting peace. "The European side expressed its conviction that the principles included in the declaration of Nov. 6, 1973, established since then in statements of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, constitute the basic elements of a Middle East peace settlement and these principles must be taken as a whole. The European side restated its view that a solution of the conflict in the Middle East will be possible on the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to give effective expression to its national identity in translated in fact.

"The European side reiterated the concern of the European side over the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territories since 1967. They maintained that the Fourth Geneva Convention was applicable to occupied territories and opposed the policy of establishing settlements there, which could only prejudice the prospect for peace. They were also opposed to any moves to alter unilaterally the status of Jerusalem. The Arab side expressed its appreciation of this stance. "The European side welcomed the improved situation in Lebanon and expressed support for its independence, unity and territorial integrity."

هكذا صحت القصة